
The Religion of Russia. A Study of the Orthodox Church in Russia, from the Point of View of the Church in England by G. B. H. Bishop

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The Religion of Russia. A Study of the Orthodox Church in Russia, from the Point of View of the Church in England. By G. B. H. BISHOP, Vicar of Cardington, Salop, and an Hon. Diocesan Secretary. London: The Society of S.S. Peter and Paul. 1915. Pp. vii, 94.

This is a little book written by a High Churchman for members of the Anglican Church, to show the relation of that church to the Orthodox Church in Russia, which occupies so nearly an identical position in the Catholic world. It consists of a brief history of the Russian Church, a description of its public worship and a discussion of its beliefs and organization. The most interesting chapter, perhaps, to the lay-reader is the last, dealing with the possibility of bringing about inter-communion between the English and the Russian church. The greatest obstacle in the Anglican church is "that indiscriminate comprehensiveness so often proclaimed to be the glory of the Anglican communion;" while in the Orthodox church, objection is raised by the English to the bigoted opposition to Rome shown by some of its members, to its lax views in regard to the indissolubility of marriage, and to its exaggerated nationalism. Complete inter-communion is probably a long way off but some progress has been made in that direction. Two societies have been formed, one in Russia and the other in England, "which work systematically and in co-operation for the restoration of inter-communion;" and in America, where large numbers of Orthodox immigrants have settled, often without churches or priests, spiritual care has been assumed over them by Anglican bishops and priests. The whole movement is another one of those which the present kindly feeling between Russia and England may do something to accelerate.

The South Americans. By W. H. KOEBEL. New York: Dodd, Mead and Company. 1915. Pp. vii, 366.

Mr. Koebel, in his latest book on South America, has given some general impressions of the country, though it is difficult to generalize about a country as large and diversified as South America. A great many different phases of the life in the southern continent are touched on in brief and impressionistic style. Among a variety of other topics, emphasis is laid on a fact which ought to be borne in mind when criticisms of South American governments are being made, the great difficulty of governing in a land where communication is neither quick nor easy. In